

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in the present application.

In the present Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings as failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims.

In the present Office Action, the Examiner objected to the previously filed Substitute Specification, as being incomplete for failing to provide the complete specification, and for failing to provide a marked-up copy of the original specification.

In the present Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential elements, in particular the structural relation between the screen and the enclosure and/or the ventilation port.

Applicant hereby traverses the Examiner's objections and rejections as described below.

A. The Drawings

Applicant herewith submits New Figure 1 and New Figure 2.

New Figure 1 provides an illustration of the casket shield of the present invention as placed around a casket, and depicts the ventilation port, screen, and tape. A clean copy of New Figure 1 is provided in Exhibit A, while an Annotated Sheet Showing Changes has been provided in Exhibit B.

New Figure 2 corresponds to previously submitted Figure 1, however has been amended to provide flow diagram formatting illustrating the organization of the steps, as well as reference numerals for the steps and elements illustrated in the Figure. Furthermore, original Figure 1 extended across two pages, while new Figure 2 extends across three pages (sheets 2-4).

A clean copy of New Figure 2 is provided in Exhibit A, while Annotated Sheets Showing Changes have been provided in Exhibit B.

B. The Substitute Specification

Applicant herewith submits a new Substitute Specification as Exhibit C. A marked up copy of the Substitute Specification is submitted as Exhibit D. No new matter has been added to the specification. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.125, the claims have not been included with the substitute specification.

C. Claims Rejections

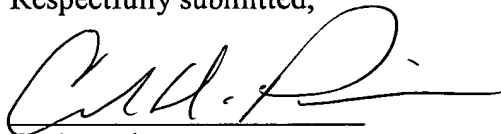
In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-4 as being indefinite under 35 USC § 112 Paragraph 2 for failing to adequately identify the structural relation between the enclosure, the ventilation port, and the screen. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended herein. As claims 2-3 depend from claim 1, no amendment of these claims is believed required, as the amendment to claim 1 provides the structural relation requested by the Examiner.

The ventilation port is an aperture in the enclosure that permits air to flow in and out of the enclosure. The ventilation port is covered by a screen which prevents the flow of crypt gnats through the port. This relation is believed provided in the claims as amended, and accordingly allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited.

Conclusion

Inasmuch as Applicants have traversed the contentions of the Examiner in a diligent effort to place the application in condition for allowance Applicants respectfully request the issuance of a Notice Of Allowance for claims 1-4, at the earliest possible time. Applicants further respectfully request the courtesy of a telephone call should there be any outstanding issues related to the issuance of a Notice of Allowance in this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C.H. Pierce', written over a horizontal line.

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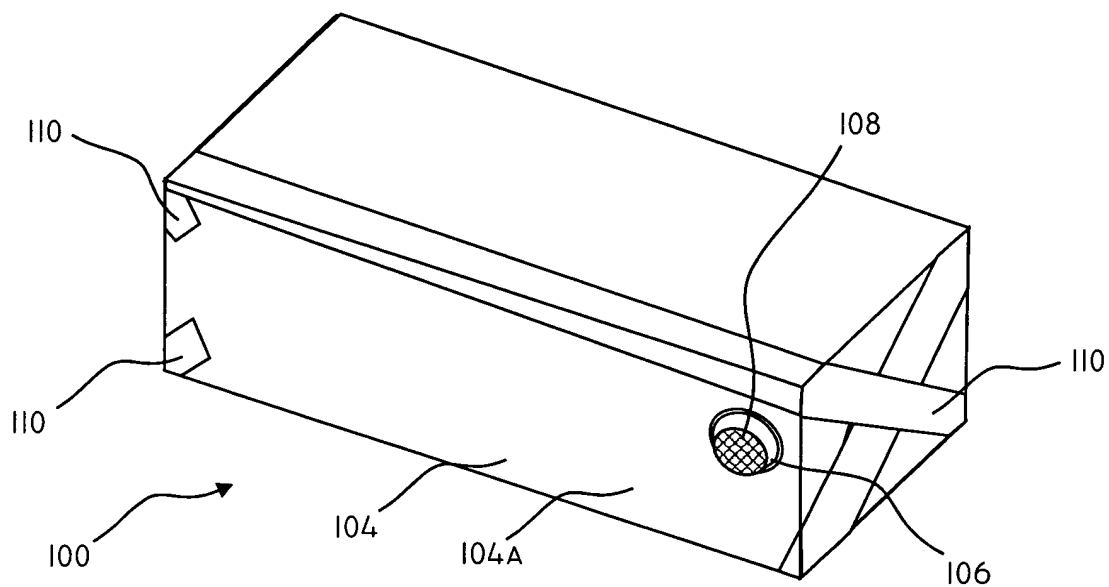
Dated: September 29, 2004

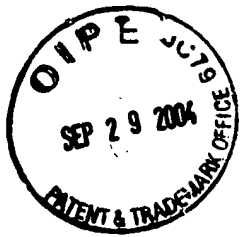


APPLICATION No. 09/737,402
AMENDMENT DATED SEPT. 29, 2004
REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION OF JUNE 29, 2004
ANNOTATED SHEET SHOWING CHANGES (SHEET 1/4)

FIGURE 1

*New Figure, showing elements
of the described invention.*





Previously Figure
1, with prior steps
placed in flow chart
format.

FIGURE 2A

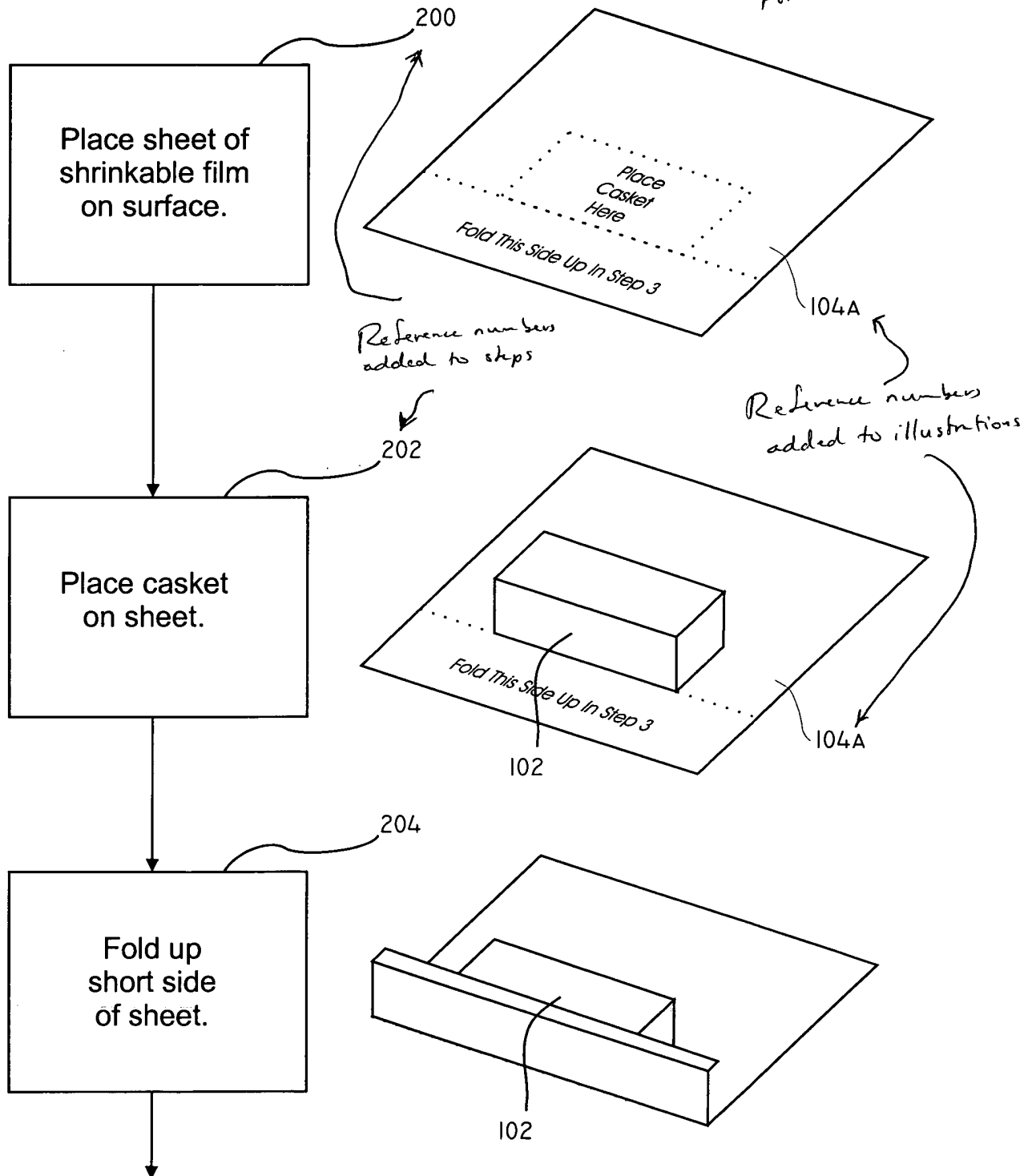




FIGURE 2B

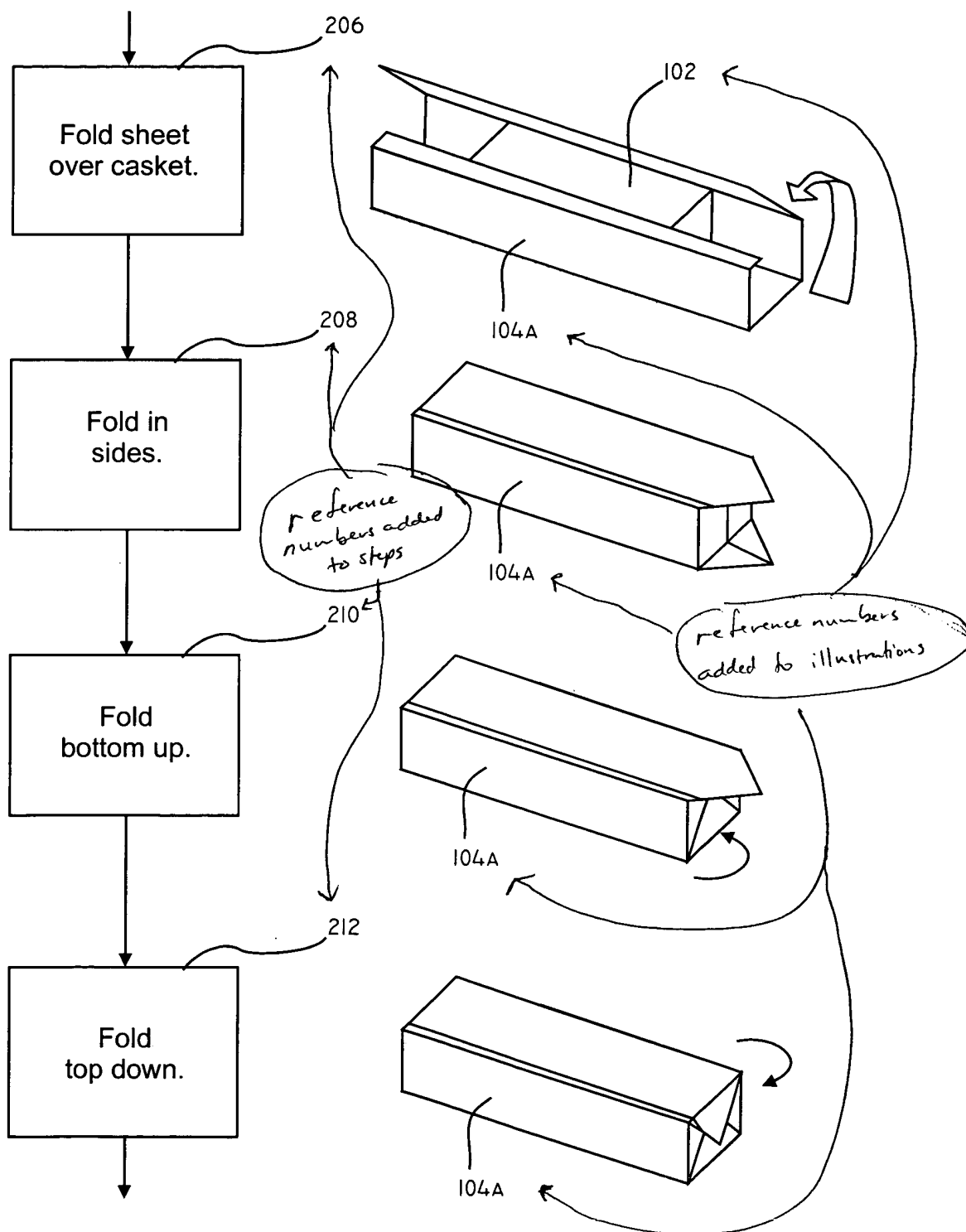




FIGURE 2C

